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Carrier to introduce resolution to support Riley

FLORENCE -- Council member Scott Carrier will introduce a resolution today to show support for Gov. Bob Riley's proposal to increase Alabama's Capital Improvement Trust Fund from \$350 million to \$750 million through state issued bonds.

"We need to show the governor that we support him because he's really trying to help," Carrier said.

Riley's proposal would more than double the state's debt load through state issued bonds.

"Over time, it'll pay itself back, and it will generate a whole lot of prosperity for a whole lot of people," Carrier said.

The resolution also requests support from state Sen. Bobby Denton, D-Muscle Shoals, and state Rep. Tammy Irons, D-Florence.

"We need to be able to attract as much industry as we can," said Council President Leland Howard. "You have to offer incentives to attract large-industries."

Local politicians hope the increased fund, along with a proposed half-percent tax increase, would generate enough money to develop an incentive fund used to attract new industries.

"Without an increase in the bond balance, there are some projects that the state would have to turn away," said Mayor Bobby Irons, who supports the resolution. If passed, the resolution will be sent to the Legislature and then to the governor.

Gov. Riley called for a special five-day session to begin Monday before the regular legislative session begins March 6.